## **CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS**

- 30. A method of acquiring data, comprising the steps of:
- a) electro-optically reading a first coded symbol by a first portable reader operated by a user to produce first symbol data;
- b) electro-optically reading a second coded symbol by a second reader to produce second symbol data;



- c) transmitting the second symbol data over a wired connection to a host computer for processing the second symbol data;
- d) transmitting the first symbol data over a wireless connection to the second reader for reception therein;
- e) receiving the first symbol data over the wireless connection in the second reader; and
- f) transmitting the first symbol data received in the second reader over said wired connection from the second reader to the host computer for processing the first symbol data.
  - 37. A system for acquiring data, comprising:
- a) a first portable reader operated by a user for electro-optically reading a first coded symbol to produce first symbol data;



- b) a second reader for electro-optically reading a second coded symbol to produce second symbol data;
- c) a host computer connected to the second reader by a wired connection for transmitting the second symbol data from the second reader to the host computer for processing;



- d) wireless transceivers respectively mounted in the first and second readers for establishing a wireless connection between the readers for transmitting the first symbol data from the first reader over the wireless connection to the second reader for reception therein; and
- e) said wired connection being further operative for transmitting the first symbol data received in the second reader to the host computer for processing.